

The Ultra Short Government Fund returned +1.04% in the second quarter compared to a +1.07% return for the ICE BofAML US 6-Month Treasury Bill Index (6-Month Treasury). Year-to-date, the Fund has returned +2.22% compared to a +2.25% return for the index.

Overview

The Federal Reserve delivered its tenth consecutive interest rate hike to the federal funds rate in May — and then paused at its meeting in June, resulting in a 5.00-5.25% target rate at quarter-end. In the minutes released from the June 2023 meeting, the Fed's projections (known as the 'dot plots') showed a year-end 2023 estimate for the funds rate above 5.0%, with two-thirds of the committee members estimating at least 5.50% (and one committee member estimating at 6%).

The Federal Reserve's monetary policy decisions (e.g., changes in short-term interest rates) will continue to affect all investments within our opportunity set. As a result, our yield and return will invariably follow the path dictated by the Federal Reserve's monetary policy, as we frequently reinvest maturities with holdings that mature in a short period of time. As of June 30, 86.6% of our portfolio was invested in U.S. Treasury notes, 2.7% in investment-grade asset-backed securities, and 10.7% in cash and cash equivalents. The average effective duration was unchanged from March 31 to June 30 at 0.3 years. The Fund's 30-day yield increased approximately 56 basis points in the quarter to 4.94% as of June 30.

Given that monetary policy impacts the economy with a lag, market participants continue to believe that the Fed is close to the end of its tightening cycle and may need to begin cutting/lowering interest rates by the end of this year, with more meaningful cuts in 2024. While we want to be aware of what the Fed and the market are saying at any given point, we understand that these projections/predictions are about as useful as the meteorologist's weather forecast. However, we would not be disappointed to have rates remain at/near current levels as reinvestment opportunities, as measured by historic 6-month Treasury bill rates, haven't been this compelling in over 15 years.

Under normal market conditions, the Fund will invest at least 80% of its net assets in obligations issued or guaranteed by the U.S. government and its government-related entities. The balance of Fund assets may be invested in U.S. investment-grade debt securities. While the banking stress that garnered so much attention in the first quarter has subsided, we continue to expect to have an even higher percentage weighting in U.S. Treasury-related securities to enhance already strong liquidity and quality measures.

Additionally, the Fund will maintain an average effective duration of one year or less. Duration is a measure of how sensitive the portfolio may be to changes in interest rates. All else equal, a lower-duration bond portfolio is less sensitive to changes in interest rates than a bond portfolio with a higher duration. Over time, this shorter-term focus (duration of less than one year) is intended to generate higher total returns than cash or money market funds, while also taking less interest rate risk than a bond portfolio with a higher duration.

The Fund's principal investment strategies and objectives of providing current income, protecting principal and providing liquidity remain our primary goals.



FIXED INCOME INSIGHTS: Unexpected Resilience

Fixed income investors remain on high alert for a potential recession. And while some cracks have begun to show in the markets, no economic downturn has materialized. No matter what happens, we continue to take a cautious approach and cast a wide net in the fixed income markets.

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RETURNS (%)												
	TOTAL RETURNS		AVERAGE ANNUAL TOTAL RETURNS							Since Inception	Net Expense	Gross Expense
	QTR	YTD	1-YR	3-YR	5-YR	10-YR	20-YR	30-YR	(8/1/1991)			
SAFEX Institutional Class	1.04	2.22	3.38	1.18	1.58	0.96	1.22	2.15	2.24	0.33	0.64	
ICE BofA US 6-Month Treasury Bill Index	1.07	2.25	3.63	1.26	1.68	1.12	1.57	2.63	2.75	-	-	

YIELDS (%)			
	30-DAY SEC YIELD		Dividend Yield
	Subsidized	Unsubsidized	
SAFEX	4.94	4.65	4.76

Data is for the quarter ending 06/30/2023. The opinions expressed are those of Weitz Investment Management and are not meant as investment advice or to predict or project the future performance of any investment product. The opinions are current through 07/20/2023, are subject to change at any time based on market and other current conditions, and no forecasts can be guaranteed. This commentary is being provided as a general source of information and is not intended as a recommendation to purchase, sell, or hold any specific security or to engage in any investment strategy. Investment decisions should always be made based on an investor's specific objectives, financial needs, risk tolerance and time horizon.

Data quoted is past performance and current performance may be lower or higher. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate, and shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Please visit weitzinvestments.com for the most recent month-end performance.

Investment results reflect applicable fees and expenses and assume all distributions are reinvested but do not reflect the deduction of taxes an investor would pay on distributions or share redemptions. Net and Gross Expense Ratios are as of the Fund's most recent prospectus. Certain Funds have entered into fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement arrangements with the Investment Advisor. In these cases, the Advisor has contractually agreed to waive a portion of the Advisor's fee and reimburse certain expenses (excluding taxes, interest, brokerage costs, acquired fund fees and expenses and extraordinary expenses) to limit the total annual fund operating expenses of the Class's average daily net assets through 07/31/2024.

The Gross Expense Ratio reflects the total annual operating expenses of the fund before any fee waivers or reimbursements. The Net Expense Ratio reflects the total annual operating expenses of the Fund after taking into account any such fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement. The net expense ratio represents what investors are ultimately charged to be invested in a mutual fund.

The Fund's Investment Advisor may also voluntarily waive fees from time to time. For example, the Advisor may voluntarily undertake to waive fees in the event that fund yields drop below a certain level. Once started, there is no guarantee that the Advisor would continue to voluntarily waive a portion of its fees. Such voluntary waiver is not reflected in the Fund's Net Expense Ratio but may impact the Fund's performance.

Effective 12/16/2016, the Ultra Short Government Fund revised its principal investment strategies. Prior to that date, the Fund operated as a "government money market fund" and maintained a stable net asset value of \$1.00 per share. Performance prior to 12/16/2016 reflects the Fund's prior principal investment strategies and may not be indicative of future performance results.

Index performance is hypothetical and is shown for illustrative purposes only. You cannot invest directly in an index. The **ICE BofA 6-Month Treasury Bill** index is generally representative of the market for U.S. Treasury Bills.

Holdings are subject to change and may not be representative of the Fund's current or future investments.

Definitions: **30-Day SEC Yield** represents net investment income earned by a fund over a 30-day period, expressed as an annual percentage rate based on the Fund's share price at the end of the 30-day period. **Subsidized yield** reflects fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements during the period. Without such fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements, if any; yields would have been lower. **Unsubsidized yield** does not adjust for any fee waivers and/or expense reimbursement in effect. **Average effective duration** provides a measure of a fund's interest-rate sensitivity. The longer a fund's duration, the more sensitive the fund is to shifts in interest rates. **Investment Grade Bonds** are those securities rated at least BBB- by one or more credit ratings agencies. **Non-Investment Grade Bonds** are those securities (commonly referred to as "high yield" or "junk" bonds) rated BB+ and below by one or more credit ratings agencies.

Consider these risks before investing: All investments involve risks, including possible loss of principal. Market risk includes political, regulatory, economic, social and health risks (including the risks presented by the spread of infectious diseases). Changing interest rates may have sudden and unpredictable effects in the markets and on the Fund's investments. See the Fund's prospectus for a further discussion of risks.

Investors should consider carefully the investment objectives, risks, and charges and expenses of a fund before investing. This and other important information is contained in the prospectus and summary prospectus, which may be obtained at weitzinvestments.com or from a financial advisor. Please read the prospectus carefully before investing.

Weitz Securities, Inc. is the distributor of the Weitz Funds.